

**NEW TRIER TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 203
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

October 20, 2025

**New Trier Township High School
7 Happ Road, Room C234
Northfield, IL 60093**

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A **Regular Meeting** of the Board of Education of New Trier Township High School District 203, Cook County, Illinois was held at New Trier High School – Northfield Campus, 7 Happ Road, in Room C234 on Monday, October 20, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present

Mr. Avik Das
Ms. Jean Hahn, President
Mr. Joo Serk Lee
Ms. Courtney McDonough

Administrators Present

Dr. Peter Tragos, Superintendent
Dr. Christopher Johnson, Deputy Superintendent
Dr. Joanne Panopoulos, Asst. Supt. for Special Ed and Student Services
Dr. Chimille Tillery, Asst. Supt. for Curriculum & Instruction
Mrs. Denise Dubravec, Principal – Winnetka Campus/Assistant Supt.
Mr. Paul Waechtler, Principal – Northfield Campus

Members Absent

Ms. Kimberly Alcantara
Ms. Sally Pofcher
Ms. Sally Tomlinson, Vice President

Also Present

Ms. Niki Dizon, Chief Communications Officer; Dr. Nashwa Mekky, Chief Human Resources Officer; Mr. Jon Lepeska, Math Department Faculty; Mr. Kevin Kansler, Business Education Department Chair; Ms. Angie Woodul, Program Assistant, New Trier Extension and President of the New Trier Educational Support Professionals Association; Ms. Sara Gries, English Department Faculty; Ms. Erika Immel, Library Department Chair; Ms. Stephanie Beck, Library Department Coordinator; Ms. Angela Burns, Ms. Maricor Chang, Mr. Marc Garneau, Ms. Julie Novak, Ms. Susan Peterson, Library Department Faculty; Ms. Paige Niemi – Library Cataloger/System Operator; Mr. Darren Brink, Ms. Bonnie Greenstein, and Ms. Ann Miller, Instructional Assistants; Mr. Mike Hill, Technology Department; Mr. Eric Johnson, Technology Department; Mr. Jeff Bailey, Technology Department; and members of the press and community.

BUSINESS MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER – 5:30 p.m. – Cancelled

The Call to Order at 5:30 p.m. was cancelled by Dr. Peter Tragos as the District did not have enough Board members for a quorum.

II. CLOSED SESSION – 5:30 p.m. – Cancelled

Closed Session was cancelled by Dr. Peter Tragos as the District did not have enough Board members for a quorum.

III. BUSINESS MEETING – Open Session – 6:30 p.m. – C234

Ms. Hahn called the Regular Meeting of October 20, 2025 of the Board of Education to order at 6:30 p.m. in room C234 at the Northfield campus. Roll call was taken, and all members were present, except for Ms. Alcantara, Ms. Pofcher and Ms. Tomlinson. Ms. Hahn shared that “due to the limited number of Board members, she would reorder the items on the agenda so the Board can focus on the items that need to be considered and acted upon tonight. After approving the minutes, we will then move to citizen communications, followed by VII. C., the Preliminary Tax Levy, VII. D. the Public Hearing concerning the intent of the Board to sell not to exceed \$15,000,000 bonds to pay the costs of certain school fire prevention and safety projects, and then item VIII., the Consent Agenda. We will then proceed with the remaining items in order.” Mr. Das moved, and Mr. Lee seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the agenda as amended. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mr. Das, Mr. Lee, Ms. McDonough, Ms. Hahn

NAY:

ABSENT: Ms. Alcantara, Ms. Pofcher, Ms. Tomlinson

The motion passed.

IV. Minutes and Reports

***A. Regular Meeting of September 15, 2025 (open and closed session) and the Special Meeting of September 22, 2025 (open and closed session)**

The first order of business was to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 15, 2025 (open and closed session) and the Special Meeting of September 22, 2025 (open and closed session). There was one request from Ms. Hahn for edits to the closed session minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 15, 2025, which were incorporated. Ms. McDonough moved, and Mr. Das seconded the motion that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 15, 2025 (open and closed session) and the Special Meeting of September 22, 2025. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Ms. McDonough, Mr. Das, Mr. Lee, Ms. Hahn

NAY:

ABSENT: Ms. Alcantara, Ms. Pofcher, Ms. Tomlinson

The motion passed.

V. Communications

Ms. Hahn invited anyone from the audience who wished to address the Board to come forward and fill out a yellow communications request form and give it to Ms. Niki Dizon, Director of Communications. Ms. Hahn stated that due to the number of issues which must be considered at the Board Meeting, commenters should limit their statement to three minutes per Board Policy 2-230. Likewise, if a comment requires a response, either Ms. Hahn or an administrator will contact the commenter in the days following the meeting. Questions and comments should address the Board of Education as a whole only. No comments should be directed to an individual Board member, audience, principals, or other staff members. No complaints against individual employees are allowed during a Board of Education Meeting. She also asked that the audience refrain from clapping or a response of any kind regarding people's comments. There was one request for public comment.

1. Amanda Nugent, parent of alumni, thanked the Board for supporting diversity, equity and inclusion in school. She shared additional comments around this.
2. Zoe Dillon, student, shared comments about rules recently instituted about certain social services board volunteer opportunities.

VI. Administrative Items

***A. 2025 Preliminary Tax Levy**

Dr. Johnson presented on the 2025 Preliminary Tax Levy which is filed in November and is for taxes collected by the District in 2026. It is a two-step process with the approval of the preliminary levy at this meeting and the approval of a final levy at the meeting next month. It is based on the extension from the previous year times the 2024 CPI of 2.9% plus the value of tax revenue from new property. The levy funds the 25-26 and 26-27 school years. It also complies with the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) which limits the increase to the lesser of 5% or CPI. The value of new property is unknown until June and is therefore estimated. The proposed levy is higher than the actual levy to ensure that new property can be taxed. The projected increase in the levy for this year is 3.31% which is based on currently issued debt. The final amount will be determined by the county once the new property is known in June. The debt service levy will be updated once the bonds have been issued. The average homeowner should experience an increase of less than or about 2.9% on the New Trier portion of their tax bill. While the value of one's home may increase, particularly in a reassessment year, the District levy does not increase by that amount and the District's tax rate will fall as the value of one's property rises. Dr. Johnson went on to share further details about this topic and then discussed the programs that the levy dollars support. The District is proud of its history of balanced budgets and after the 2003 referendum, the District committed to five years of no referendum, and that original commitment has extended to 22 years. The District carefully manages cost on an annual basis and has no plans for a referendum at this time. Dr. Johnson then shared about the awards the District has received for its financial stewardship. He spoke about how the levy has supported the District's facilities work, maintained appropriate reserves, particularly as the District sees a delay in the second installment of property tax bills, among

other areas. The levy will play a key role in presenting a balanced budget next year. Dr. Johnson thanked the Board and community for their support. He then invited questions and comments from the Board.

Ms. Hahn noted that the distinction should be made when the District says it has not had a referendum since 2003, to specify that refers to an operating referendum. She also shared congratulations on the Aaa bond rating that the District recently received.

Mr. Das moved, and Mr. Lee seconded the motion that the Board of Education approves the 2025 Tentative Levy in the amount of \$137,334,177 and that a Public Hearing be held at the November 17, 2025 regularly scheduled Board Meeting. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mr. Das, Mr. Lee, Ms. McDonough, Ms. Hahn

NAY:

ABSENT: Ms. Alcantara, Ms. Pofcher, Ms. Tomlinson

***B. Public Hearing concerning the intent of the Board to sell not to exceed \$15,000,000 bonds to pay the costs of certain school fire prevention and safety projects**

Ms. Hahn called the public hearing on the 2025-2026 final budget to order at 6:44 p.m. Dr. Johnson shared that in collaboration with the District's architects, it has identified a series of important Health Life Safety (HLS) items to address over the next two years at the Northfield and Winnetka campuses. Following a detailed review with the Finance and Facilities Committees review this fall, which included a careful review of funding mechanisms, the administration recommends that these items be addressed now. The projects include replacement of outdated critical electrical infrastructure dating from the 1950s and 1960s, replacement of mechanical/HVAC systems installed in the 1960s, security upgrades, including new door-locking hardware and enhancements to the clock, bell, and public address systems. The projects will be funded by an issuance of \$15 million in HLS bonds. The Board was asked to take two actions on this, the first is the public hearing on the issuance and the second is the approval of the HLS amendments for submission to the state, which is part of the consent agenda. The District anticipates that the bond sale will occur in December or January, after receiving approval from the Illinois State Board of Education. The District remains committed to maintaining a safe, reliable and high-quality learning environment for students and staff. By continuing to address these issues, it allows the District to improve conditions for students, ensure reliability of critical systems that impact the functionality of the school and safety, and benefit from a lower cost of construction in present dollars and financing benefits that come with issuing the bonds with other debt that the District has issued. Dr. Johnson then invited questions and comments from the Board.

Ms. Hahn inquired if there were any public comments of which there were none.

Mr. Lee moved, and Mr. Das seconded the motion that the Board of Education move to adjourn the public hearing concerning the intent of the Board to sell not to exceed \$15,000,000 bonds to pay the costs of certain school fire prevention and safety projects. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mr. Das, Mr. Lee, Ms. McDonough, Ms. Hahn

NAY:

ABSENT: Ms. Alcantara, Ms. Pofcher, Ms. Tomlinson

The motion passed. The public hearing was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

VII. Consent Agenda

- Bill List for Period, September 1 - 30, 2025
- Personnel Report (Appointments, Changes of Status, Retirements, Stipends – Appointments, and Stipends Separation)
- Winnetka Campus North and Tower Building Construction Report #3
- Policy Revisions - Second Reading - PRESS 119
- Health Life Safety Amendment Approvals
- Northfield Athletic Project Phase 2: Pepper Contract for Construction Management Services
- Northfield Athletic Project Phase 2: Cashman Stahler Group Contract for Architectural Services

- Contract with Wight & Co for Long Range Facilities Study
- School Maintenance Project Grant Approval
- Facilities Rental Contract with NOW Arena for 2027 and 2028 Graduation

Ms. Hahn inquired if any members wanted to pull an item off the Consent Agenda, no one chose to do so. Mr. Das moved that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda, which includes: Bill List for Period, September 1 - 30, 2025; Personnel Report (Appointments, Changes of Status, Retirements, Stipends – Appointments, and Stipends – Separation); Winnetka Campus North and Tower Building Construction Report #3; Policy Revisions - Second Reading - PRESS 119; Health Life Safety Amendment Approvals; Approve the construction management services contract with Pepper Construction and authorize the Deputy Superintendent to execute the agreement, subject to attorney review; Approve an architect services contract for the Cashman Stahler Group for the 2026 renovations at the Northfield Campus and authorize the Deputy Superintendent to execute the contract subject to attorney review; Approve the contract with Wight & Company, for the development of a new long-range facilities plan and authorize the Deputy Superintendent to execute the agreement with Wight & Company, subject to attorney review; Authorize the Illinois State Board of Education School Maintenance Grant application process in the amount of \$50,000 and reserve funds for the projects as required by the grant provisions; Approve the attached agreement with NOW Arena for 2027 and 2028 graduations and authorize the Deputy Superintendent to execute it subject to attorney review. Mr. Lee seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the members voted as follows:

AYE: Mr. Lee, Ms. McDonough, Mr. Das, Ms. Hahn

NAY:

ABSENT: Ms. Alcantara, Ms. Pofcher, Ms. Tomlinson

Ms. Hahn then noted “that Board member Avik Das now must depart, and due to his departure, we no longer have a quorum. We will continue with the rest of the agenda but will be taking no action on the remaining items.” Mr. Das departed the meeting at 6:49 p.m.

VIII. Informational Items

A. Report from Campus Principals, Assistant Superintendents, and FOIA Report

Mr. Paul Waechtler, Principal for the Northfield Campus, shared the following student events and program updates from that campus:

- Go Green Illinois Schools held their fall program at New Trier as part of the District’s late arrival learning collaborative time. Over 20 K-12 educators met with New Trier faculty to learn about Human Centered Design and the school’s efforts around engaging students in sustainability. They did a sample activity in the Northfield learning garden.
- The UCLA football team used the football field for practice before their game against Northwestern. Kinetic Wellness (KW) staff and students enjoyed seeing them.
- Adviser Room Olympics have begun with the first competition being which adviser rooms can finish their Trevian IT modules first which was then followed by Tug of War.
- The first Pep Rally for freshmen recently took place with the pep band, dance and cheer performances. There were also students versus staff competitions.
- The Freshman Mixer had well over 600 students attend. There was a DJ in the main gym along with inflatable games in the other gyms as well as food for purchase. He thanked adviser chairs Mr. Mark Howard and Ms. Sue Ellen Haak, Activities Coordinator Dr. Tim Hayes, and Assistant Principal Mr. Matt Koulentes as well as the Bridge Builders.
- Freshman Go-to-School Night took place the following evening. It was a great opportunity for families to see what life is like for their student. Mr. Waechtler thanked teachers for creating engaging activities for families.

Mrs. Denise Dubravec, Principal for the Winnetka Campus/Assistant Superintendent, shared the following student events and program updates from that campus:

- On Thursday, September 18th, the Kinetic Wellness and Athletic departments hosted the dedication of their office suite in recognition of Ms. Bonnie Beach and Ms. Lee Kennicke. They hosted a dinner and recognition ceremony prior to the girls’ volleyball game against Glenbrook South. Mrs. Dubravec provided background on each recipient, noting both shaped the KW and Athletic departments into what they are today. They were

true pioneers of Title IX and their efforts in promoting gender equality in sports helped transform the athletic landscape in Illinois and beyond. She thanked Mr. Augie Fontanetta, Athletic Director, for organizing the evening.

- Mr. Waechtler and Mrs. Dubravec recently returned from Minnesota where they attended the Large High School Consortium meeting. Mrs. Dubravec shared about their time at Minnetonka High School and Wayzata High School. New Trier and Lyons Township will host their next meeting.
- Mrs. Dubravec thanked Student Council and staff for their work on Spirit Week as well as Trucks on Trevian.
- The campus also hosted their Homecoming Rally, where staff participated in a Mask Singer competition.
- Girls Flag Football played prior to the Boys Football Homecoming Game. She also thanked Mr. Fontanetta for the faculty family event that Athletics hosted.
- The Homecoming Dance took place the following evening with the most tickets sold in the history of the event.
- German students participated in an exchange program with students from Trier, Germany. Ms. Venera Stabinsky and Ms. Katja Steen, German teachers, organized the exchange that has taken place over the past twenty years. Trier students recently visited New Trier students, who hosted them in their homes.
- The classes of 1968 and 1980 recently had their reunions.
- Mrs. Dubravec shared about a parent guest speaker who is news director at WBBM and visited one of Ms. Kristan Kenney's, English classes. Ms. Hilerre Kirsch, Music and Theatre Department Faculty, has hosted a variety of alumni in her classes recently: Mr. Brant Russell, class of 1998, who is director of the acting program at the University of Cincinnati, Mr. Justin Jasso, class of 2008, who is a singer and songwriter, and Mr. Stephen Schellhardt, class of 2001, who is a professional actor and director.
- Mrs. Dubravec then shared that the library department has been honored with the prestigious Association of Illinois School Library Educators (AISLE) elementary school library award. They were recognized at a ceremony on October 6th in Champaign. The award recognizes school libraries throughout the state of Illinois that exemplify the standards set forth in Linking for Learning. It is a testament to the dedication of the school's library staff, their innovative instructional collaboration, and the school community's commitment to cultivating a vibrant culture of learning and inquiry. Ms. Tina Ward presented the award on behalf of AISLE and shared additional comments. Ms. Hahn thanked Ms. Ward for attending while Mrs. Dubravec shared additional comments. Dr. Tragos also shared his congratulations, thanking faculty for all their work and dedication. He also thanked AISLE for recognizing the department's hard work. Mrs. Dubravec also added that Ms. Peterson, Library Department Faculty, serves on AISLE.
- Boys golf placed first, while girls golf place third at the state golf tournament. Boys placed fourth and eighth, while girls placed third in singles.

Dr. Johnson gave the FOIA report noting that there have been six requests since the last Board meeting, and all are closed. They included: records related to a contract, purchasing records, staff list, technology expenditures, expenditure reports and vendor information.

Dr. Tragos shared that he and Dr. Tillery recently attended the Superintendents' Consortium at Westside Community Schools in Omaha. The consortium also consists of Eanes Westlake in Austin, Edina Public Schools, Highland Park in Dallas, and Manhattan Beach Unified School District. Dr. Tragos shared the benefits of participating in the consortium and noted that this trip focused on Artificial Intelligence (AI). He shared further details about what was discussed regarding AI as well as sites that they visited. The group will attend a conference together in Nashville in February. Dr. Tillery shared comments about her experience as this was the first consortium she attended in her new role. Ms. Hahn thanked them both for participating in this.

Dr. Tragos shared that October is National Principals Month and this week is Principals Week. He recognized the leadership, care and vision of Principals Dubravec and Waechtler. Dr. Tragos went on to recognize Associate Principals: Chris Mitchell, Dan Weidner, and Dan Paustian followed by the Graduating Class Teams Assistant Principals: Trish Sheridan, Sarah Struebing, Scott Williams, and Matt Koulentes. Ms. Hahn added that the sentiment carries through in the community as well.

B. Class Size Report

Dr. Chimille Tillery, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, presented the Class Size Report which provides a perspective on class size and how the District allocates its resources. It also helps the District to internally monitor its staffing levels and allocations in order to make decisions about staffing and sectioning for

the upcoming school year. Staffing targets are set using McKibben's projections for this school year of 3,671 students. The official October 1st enrollment number exceeds this by 14 students and compared to last year, it is a net increase of 27 students. In School Year 21, the October 1st enrollment was 4,032 students and this year the enrollment is 3,685 students which is a net decrease of 347 students over the last six years. Before proceeding, Dr. Tillery thanked Dr. Dan Weidner, Associate Principal for Academic and Administrative Services and Ms. Katherine Kapustiak, Application Support Specialist for their assistance with the report, along with Dr. Johnson's budgeting. She also thanked Dr. Tragos for his work while he was in his role as Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, and retired Associate Principal, Ms. Gail Gamrath for building and balancing this year's master schedule alongside Dr. Weidner and Ms. Kapustiak.

Dr. Tillery focused on three highlights of the report – average class size, median class size, and fewer small classes. The data shows that the District has a very student-centered approach to staffing and sectioning and allocation of FTE with great attention to overall teacher loads, which represents the number of students a teacher has.

Average class size has remained stable over the past six years, hovering around 22 students. In SY21, the average size was 22.4, it dipped slightly the next two years, and then began to slightly rise to this school year at 22.7. Dr. Tillery recognized the consistency of this and the average class size in a declining enrollment environment while maintaining people, programs, and new opportunities.

Median class size indicates what the most common classroom experience looks like for students. During negotiations in 2023, it was agreed upon between the Board and Association that the median class size should not exceed 23 whenever practicable. The median of all classes is 24. Fifty percent of all classes across the school have between 20 and 26 students in the class. There are five departments below the median: Art, English, Family and Consumer Sciences, Modern and Classical Languages, and Theatre, while two are above the median: Business Education and Social Studies. Dr. Tillery noted that this work is done directly with department chairs and coordinators who advocate for their students and teachers. Next, Dr. Tillery shared about sections outside the target range, noting that small classes have 14 students or less, while large classes have 30 students or more. In SY21, 6.5% were small classes, with the exception of SY23, the number has steadily decreased and this year it is 3.9%, which is a 40% decrease in six years. There are 34 sections of small classes total across the school and 11 sections of large classes. It has been a strategic objective to reduce the number of small classes, which Dr. Tillery further explained. Some of the classes outside of the range are typical because they are singletons or doubletons where the school is supporting capstone classes, programs, and students with special or specific needs. Dr. Tillery then invited questions and comments from the Board.

Mr. Lee inquired what the optimum class size is for the educational outcomes that the school wants. While Dr. Tillery could provide a standard answer, it really depends on the make up of the class such as if it is a specialty class or one that has students with accommodations in it.

Ms. McDonough inquired how much flexibility there is in order to allow for schedule changes for students that may need them. Dr. Tragos replied that flexibility is built into the sectioning process and depending on the course and the section, there tends to be more flexibility in some courses year-to-year, which he further explained. In working with department chairs and coordinators, the school looks at courses it knows tends to have greater movement than others. He also shared the challenge of course seat limits set by departments. He also noted that movement also happens at marking periods, particularly the semester.

Ms. Hahn thanked Dr. Tillery for continuing this great report. She noted that the numbers are necessary in order to staff and allocate resources, but the numbers are students, teachers, and classroom experiences and there is a story underneath including the complex needs of the students that show up in these classes.

Ms. Hahn inquired if there are aspects of the Strategic Plan and upcoming initiatives where there is anticipation of alleviating the burden of class size for teachers. Those initiatives may include Future Programming, career pathways, experiential learning, the Graduating Class Teams, and access to more rigorous classes throughout the student population. Dr. Tillery replied that she anticipates that with the roll out of Future Programming that it will help to alleviate some issues.

Dr. Tragos thanked Dr. Tillery, Dr. Weidner, and Ms. Kapustiak for their work on the report. He also noted his appreciation for Ms. Hahn's recognition that behind each of the numbers is a student, teacher, and class. Dr.

Tragos also shared that the District is aware of class size and its impact and wants to stay at the average of 22 students, while recognizing that for some teachers the experience feels different. The District is aware and is doing its best to utilize its resources to support students. Ms. McDonough inquired if Dr. Tillery could share at some point later in the week how New Trier compares to the districts around it in terms of class size, which Dr. Tiller confirmed she would find out.

C. Treasurer's Report for September 2025

Dr. Johnson provided the Treasurer's Report for September 2025. Progress continues on the FY25 audit and there is significant variability on both the revenue and expenditure side due to the timing of receipts and payments. There is continued focus on the delay in property tax receipts due to delay in issuance of the second installment tax bills as Cook County continues their computer system upgrade. Property taxes represent 91% of the District's revenue. Typically, bills are issued July 1st and due August 1st, with some funds received by the District starting in July. At this point last year, well over \$50 million had already been received. This year, the District has only received \$780,000 that is attributable to last year. This year, tax bills have not been issued and funds have not been distributed to taxing bodies. The District has carefully analyzed its liquidity position through the fall and will update it monthly. Right now, it is projected to maintain adequate liquidity through the end of December with cash on hand and existing investment maturities. The District has paused additional investments in its 5-year ladder, which will have a long-term negative impact on future year interest earnings, as it is generally assumed that rates will drop, and investments that are placed in the future will be at lower rates. While the District earns significant earnings on cash, those are reduced as well, as the amount of cash on hand drops. The District is fortunate to be in the position it is but will monitor its liquidity carefully. The investments at PMA, the District's short-term portfolio, are at 4.11% and at Fifth Third, the District's long-term portfolio, the average is 4.29%. The fund balance for all accounts is \$105,230,817.

D. Financial Report for September 2025

Dr. Johnson then provided the Financial Report for September 2025. This month reflects the second full month of normal operations. Operating revenue for the first three months of the fiscal year was \$4,043,046, or 93% lower compared to \$62 million last year, once again due to delayed property tax payments. The adopted budget for operating revenue is only slightly higher than last fiscal year.

Operating expenditures through September were \$21,658,000 or 1.62% lower than last year's \$22 million. Timing variances are often seen early in the fiscal year in several categories, but this is a good overall start for the first quarter. The adopted budget for operating expenses is 1.52% higher than last year. Fund book balances for all accounts were \$109,085,491.

Ms. Hahn thanked Dr. Johnson for keeping the Finance Committee informed.

IX. Board Member Reports

Mr. Lee noted that the **Booster Club** met last month, and they have already achieved their revenue target for the year. They reviewed stadium scoreboard concepts which will be finalized soon. Mr. Lee noted that they remain the only Booster run intramural program in the country and one in four students participated last year.

Ms. McDonough attended the **New Trier Parents Association** kick off meeting on October 7th where they approved the budget for the year. The first round of class coffees is taking place and Ms. McDonough went to one for the junior class that was well attended. They also had a robust discussion on the ways to engage students who attend dances, sporting events, or the performing arts events, and how they can encourage the students to stay longer at them.

Ms. McDonough also attended the **Safety Committee** on October 7th. It was an opportunity to hear from a variety of stakeholders. The committee also watched the student and parent safety videos. They also heard great input from students about their experience in the building and how that could be made easier.

Ms. McDonough, Ms. Pofcher, and Ms. Hahn attended the **Facilities Steering Committee**. They toured the Winnetka campus and saw the construction progress. They also saw the outdated electrical equipment that will be improved with the Health Life Safety bonds that the Board approved earlier.

Ms. Hahn shared that the **New Trier Educational Foundation Liaison Committee** will meet this Thursday. The School Spirit Showdown took place while New Trier won the football game, they lost to Evanston in the number of

donations made to each Foundation. Ms. Hahn shared it is a great way to increase the profile of the Foundation and the work that they do.

X. Calendar of Events & Board Members' Requests for Staff Research and Future Agenda Items

Dr. Tragos highlighted the following events:

- The Parent Community Advisory Group will take place on October 23rd and the group will focus on providing feedback on Goal One of the Annual Plan – Career-Connected Learning and Future Programming.
- Friday, November 7th is Institute Day where faculty and staff will focus on *The Portrait of a New Trier Graduate*. Dr. Melissa Dudic, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and her team have planned the day.
- The next Board meeting is Monday, November 17th.
- Dr. Tragos also encouraged people to attend upcoming performing arts events.

Ms. Hahn then inquired whether there were any requests for staff research or future agenda items, of which there was one from Ms. McDonough to hear about area schools' class sizes.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. McDonough moved, and Mr. Lee seconded the motion, to adjourn. Upon a voice vote being taken, all members indicated they were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsey Ruston, Secretary

Jean Hahn, President